

What is claimed is:

1. A system for manipulating and managing usage rights adapted to be associated with digital content, said system comprising:

a rights module operative to specify a manner of use;

a conditions module operative to specify one or more conditions necessary for exercising a manner of use; and

an offers module operative to combine one or more rights specified by said rights module and one or more conditions specified by said conditions module to create a rights offer object of usage rights and associated conditions necessary for exercising a manner of use indicated by the usage rights.

2. A system as recited in claim 1, further comprising a label component for one or more rights offers into a label object adapted to be associated with specified content, whereby a user can select one or more of the rights offers in the label to exercise a manner of use with respect to the content.

3. A system as recited in claim 2, wherein the offer object and the label object are graphical objects.

4. A system as recited in claim 3, further comprising a batch support module operative to apply operations to plural selected objects in a collective manner.

5. A system as recited in claim 4, wherein said batch support module includes a drag and drop interface.

6. A system as recited in claim 2, wherein said label object represents a file of computer code.
7. A system as recited in claim 6, wherein the code is in XrML format.
8. A system as recited in claim 2, wherein said label specifies the content and metadata associated with the content.
9. A system as recited in claim 2, wherein said label is not associated with specific content to serve as a label template.
10. A system as recited in claim 2, wherein said labels specifies parts of the content and the metadata associated with the parts of the content.
11. A system as recited in claim 9, wherein said label includes precedence rules.
12. A system as recited in claim 2, further comprising means as editing module operative to view and edit said label.
13. A system as recited in claim 9, wherein said label template contains plural offers.
14. A system as recited in claim 9, wherein said label template includes generic metadata.

15. A system as recited in claim 14, wherein said generic metadata includes the name of the content.

16. A label for expressing usage rights adapted to be associated with digital content, said label comprising:

usage rights specifying a manner of use;

conditions specifying one or more conditions necessary for exercising a manner of use, wherein one or more of said usage rights and one or more of said conditions are combined to create a rights offer object; and

a label container including at least one rights offer object.

17. A label as recited in claim 16, wherein said label further comprises a file of computer code expressing said usage rights and said conditions.

18. A label as recited in claim 16, further comprising an association to content.

19. A label as recited in claim 17, wherein the code is in XrML format.

20. A label as recited in claim 18, further comprising metadata associated with the content.

21. A label as recited in claim 16, further comprising precedence rules.